

3. (amended) A catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas comprising:

a precious metal catalyst; and

a co-catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas including a composite oxide including (a) cerium; and (b) at least one element selected from the group consisting of zirconium, yttrium, strontium, barium and a rare-earth element supported on a particulate aluminum support;

wherein a specific surface area of the co-catalyst after sintering is not less than $40 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$, an oxygen storage capacity at 400°C is not less than $10 \text{ }\mu\text{mol}/\text{g}$, and an oxygen storage capacity at 700°C is not less than $100 \text{ }\mu\text{mol}/\text{g}$.
